

computer input device and a financial instrument search procedure, said financial instrument search procedure operating said processor to conduct said search of said data base in response to user operation of said computer input device, wherein prior to an i^{th} filter pass, a plurality of filter criteria for said financial instruments are presented on said viewing screen for user selection of at least one of said criteria as a proposed filter condition by operation of said computer input device, where i is any integer from 1 to n , and wherein a population chart for said selected proposed filter condition is presented on said viewing screen, said population chart showing the population of said financial instruments in different categories for said proposed filter condition as an aid to the user for selecting one or more of said filter criteria for said i^{th} filter pass.

31. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 41, wherein there is a different histogram for each investment parameter, said investment parameters being selectable by user operation of said computer input device for selecting said histogram for presentation on said viewing screen.

Please rewrite the second claim 30 on page 34 as new claim 41 as follows:

41. The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said population chart is a histogram and said categories are frequency of occurrence categories.

[Please add the following new claims:]

---42. A method of searching a universe of financial instruments comprising:

- (a) presenting a histogram including a plurality of display elements that represent different groupings of an investment parameter,
- (b) identifying for each of said display elements a filter condition for said